

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 309

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Congregation Beth Israel's West Dallas Cemetery, which has been designated a Historic Cemetery by the Texas Historical Commission; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1854, Congregation Beth Israel is the oldest synagogue in Texas; the history of the cemetery on West Dallas dates to 1844 and is closely tied with the history of the City of Houston; and

WHEREAS, Congregation Beth Israel has a rich history and legacy; it is an active, vibrant Reform Jewish congregation with a diverse membership and includes more than 1,700 member households; and

WHEREAS, Cemeteries are the lasting reminders of early communities in Texas; an official designation as a historic Texas cemetery highlights the importance of this cemetery to the history of Houston and the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, To commemorate the West Dallas Cemetery's connection to Texas heritage, a marker dedication ceremony will take place on April 26, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby congratulate the officers, clergy, and members of Congregation Beth Israel on their efforts to preserve the West Dallas Cemetery and extend to all best wishes for a memorable Historical Marker dedication ceremony; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared to commemorate this special occasion.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 25, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate